

Message Text

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11

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 FBO-01 A-01 /012 W

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P 260525ZJUN 74

FM AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 1727

UNCLAS ABU DHABI 0815

DEPT FOR NEA/EX

EO 11652: NA

TAGS: ABLD, TC

SUBJ: HOUSING FOR PEALE

1. AFTER EXHAUSTIVE SURVEY POST HAS BEEN UNABLE TO LOCATE SUITABLE SHORT-LEASE HOUSING FOR PEALE. ALTHOUGH EMBASSY MOVING AHEAD ON THE COM RESIDENCE, IT DOUBTFUL, EVEN IF IMMEDIATE APPROVAL TO SIGN LEASE IS GRANTED, THAT RESIDENCE CAN BE READY FOR OCCUPANCY BEFORE LATE SUMMER 1975. AMBASSADOR STERNER WILL THEREFORE OCCUPY THE FORMER CHARGE'S RESIDENCE UNTIL SUCH TIME AS THE COM'S RESIDENCE IS COMPLETED. THIS LEAVES THE POST ONEHOUSE SHORT ON OVERALL STAFFING.

2. WE HAVE OVER THE PAST THIRTY DAYS BEEN TRYING TO IDENTIFY A SUITABLE HOUSE OR APARTMENT FOR PEALE WHO WILL BE THE SECOND RANKING OFFICER AT POST, AND DCM. HOWEVER, BECAUSE OF ACUTE HOUSING SHORTAGE THAT HAS BEEN DESCRIBED IN PREVIOUS MESSAGES, WE HAVE BEEN UNSUCCESSFUL IN OUR ATTEMPTS TO IDENTIFY ONE THAT WOULD BE SUITABLE, EVEN ON TEMPORARY BASIS.

3. THE ONLY SOLUTION WHICH WE CAN COME UP WITH IS FOR USG TO CONTRACT NOW FOR A HOUSE THAT IS UNDER CONSTRUCTION AND WILL BE COMPLETED IN OCTOBER. AMB STERNER NOW PLANS TO DEPART POST ON OR ABOUT AUG 5, RETURNING IN EARLY SEPT. SHORTLY AFTER AMBASSADOR'S RETURN, PEALE WOULD DEPART FOR HOME LEAVE AND RETURNING IN LATE OCT EARLY NOVEMBER AND WOULD AT THAT TIME BE ABLE TO MOVE INTO THE NEW QUARTERS. IN MEANTIME HE CAN MOVE INTO AMBASSADOR'S HOUSE WHILE LATTER IS AWAY.

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4. RENTAL ON NEW HOUSE FOR PEALE WOULD BE DH65,000 PER YEAR.
THE ONLY DRAWBACK IS THAT WE WOULD HAVE TO SIGN A MINIMUM FIVE
YEAR CONTRACT PAYING TWO YEARS IN ADVANCE FOR THE HOUSE.
THIS HOWEVER, MWC IN THE LONG RUN WORK TO OUR ADVANTAGE.
POST WILL GAIN A FLEXIBILITY IN HOUSING WHICH IT HAS NOT
PREVIOUSLY HAD, PLUS A VERY GOOD 3BEDROOM HOUSE. WE HAVE
EXPLORED EVERY AVENUE FOR A SHORT TERM LEASE (ONE OR TWO YEARS).
WE HAVE EVEN TRIED TO SUB-LET AND HAVE BEEN UNABLE TO FIND ANY

LANDLORD WHO IS WILLING TO SIGN SUCH AN AGREEMENT.

5. THEREFORE, REQUEST DEPT TO APPROVE SIGNING CONTRACT FOR
ABOVE MENTIONED HOUSE. IF DEPT WANTS FUNDS OBLIGATED PRIOR TO
FY 75 PJUS ADVISE TELEGRAPHICALLY SO THAT WE COULD SIGN CON-
TRACT NOW. IN EITHER CASE, PAYMENTS WOULD NOT BEGIN UNTIL COM-
PLETION OF HOUSE IN OCTOBER.
STERNER

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NNN

*** Current Handling Restrictions *** n/a

*** Current Classification *** UNCLASSIFIED

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